

February 3, 1963

**Hospital Agency Asks
More Convention Funds**

JACKSONVILLE (BP)--The board of Southern Baptist Hospitals, an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention, voted here to request more funds from the SBC.

It said \$200,000 is needed each year to pay the interest on the capital mortgage. The hospital in this Florida city and another in New Orleans are planning expansions which may total \$20 million. Both hospitals are operated by the agency.

T. Sloane Guy Jr., New Orleans, executive secretary, said Baptists have a stand against government grants and loans. This has made it necessary for those two hospitals to turn to lending sources charging higher interest than the government.

This stand places the hospitals in the position of having to ask their patients or the denomination for more money to pay the interest. Guy said he feels the patients should not be charged for a church-state principle the denomination stands on.

He said the denomination should bear the cost resulting from its stand on the issue.

The agency has been getting \$25,000 a year from the Convention for operations. This was raised to \$35,000 in 1963. Guy reported the "full \$25,000 allocated for 'operating'...is credited to the program" of providing services for "those least able to pay."

The agency also has \$50,000 annual Cooperative Program support for its capital needs program.

The hospital board also voted to oppose part of President John F. Kennedy's new income tax proposals.

The board said Kennedy's proposals would cut the amount which persons could deduct from their income tax for gifts to hospitals. It feared this would reduce the donations to the hospitals.

The agency also agreed to do more to inform the Baptist "man-in-the-street" about the work of the two hospitals--Baptist Memorial Hospital here and Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans.

Rufus H. Zachry of Metairie, La., was elected president of the board. The annual board meeting alternates between Jacksonville and New Orleans.

An increase in patient-days of services in the hospitals (already running at a high occupancy rate) was reported. The hospitals must expand, it was reported, in order to meet the need for more bed space.

Hardy M. Harrell, Jacksonville, outgoing board president, said the New Orleans hospital is "on its way in an extensive improvement and expansion program." Preliminary plans for a long-range expansion here are underway, he said.

Lawrence R. Payne, Jacksonville administrator, said this hospital needs to plan for nursing education, future expansion and a greater number of professional personnel.

Lottie Moon Gifts Push
Designations Past 1962

NASHVILLE (BP)--Lottie Moon Christmas Offering gifts to foreign missions pushed the designated totals for January, 1963 at the Southern Baptist Convention treasurer's office here to \$2,521,075.

Treasurer Porter Routh said this compared with \$2,379,403 forwarded from state Baptist offices during January, 1962. Most of the designated gifts received in January are from the Lottie Moon offering.

Cooperative Program gifts were another story. They declined by comparison with the previous January. The figures are, for January, 1963, \$1,628,000, and for the same month in 1962, \$1,702,261.

Yet the Cooperative Program budget for calendar-fiscal year 1963 for the Southern Baptist Convention is \$19,792,500, against \$19,013,500 for the year 1962.

In studying the Cooperative Program comparisons, it should be noted that one large state's gifts through this channel failed to come in. North Carolina, which sent in \$56,427 in January, 1962 for the Cooperative Program, did not send anything in January, 1963.

Declines in amounts sent in involved several other state Baptist groups, when compared with last year's first month. These states included Arizona, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii (which also sent nothing in January, 1963), Kentucky, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Tennessee.

Major disbursement to any SBC agency was to the Foreign Mission Board. This is true in other months, but is especially noticed when Lottie Moon comes around.

Figures reported by the SBC treasurer include only the part of Cooperative Program funds sent to worldwide causes. Normally about two-thirds of what churches raise for the Cooperative Program stays in the states for use there.

The churches, in turn, send only a fraction of their total weekly collections through the Cooperative Program to their state Baptist offices.

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Sunday Schools Decline
In South's Rural Areas

(2-3-63)

ATLANTA (BP)--"Southern interest in Sunday school in rural areas seems to be on the decline," Leonard G. Irwin of the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board revealed here.

Recent results of a Tift County, Ga., interdenominational religious survey showed that 49 per cent of the children under nine were not in Sunday school. "This same thing is showing up all over the South in rural areas," said Irwin, secretary of the department of survey and special studies of the Home Mission Board. He pointed out the percentage of Sunday school members was higher in years past.

Local church members made up 55.1 per cent of the people surveyed, with 6.3 per cent non-local church members. Total membership was thus below the national average of 62.6 per cent for the average community.

For Baptists, the survey initiated in area church development ministry, the next step of which will be a church development seminar.

Around 13,500 persons were covered by the survey, which included 92 per cent of the area selected. Tifton is the county seat of Tift County, which has a population of approximately 24,000.

J. E. Dake, pastor of the DeSoto Park Baptist Church of Rome, Ga., was director of the survey, serving as an approved worker of the Home Mission Board's department of survey and special studies. Carrying out the door-to-door canvass were 432 volunteers from churches of various denominations.

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Charles R. Standridge, pastor, First Baptist Church, Tifton, and vice-president of the Home Mission Board, served as local survey coordinator. His church will be host church for the seminar and will serve as a pilot church for the Home Mission Board and the Georgia Baptist Convention in a church development program to be carried out over a period of years.

The eight-day survey will be followed by a church development seminar designed to instruct Baptist pastors in mission techniques. It will interpret the survey to the churches, and help the churches to make immediate and long-range plans based on the survey and other studies.

This seminar will be directed by Lewis W. Newman, Atlanta, associate in charge of church development in the department of associational missions of the Home Mission Board.

Also taking part will be Dake; Franklin M. Segler, chairman, department of pastoral ministries, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; T. E. Dougherty, pastor, Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga.; Charles Gentry, pastor, West Heights Baptist Church, Pontotoc, Miss., and outstanding pastor--1962 for churches of over 500 members in the church development ministry; and Arthur Hinson, assistant executive secretary, Georgia Baptist Convention, Atlanta.

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Folks and Facts.....

(2-3-63)

.....The son of a District of Columbia pastor is missing; over the Pacific. Mr. and Mrs. J. Ray Garrett, Second Baptist Church, College Park, Md., have not set a date for a memorial service for their son, Lt. Duane Garrett, who was a pilot in the Navy Air Corps. The Garretts make their home at 4001 Claggett Rd., Hyattsville, Md. (BP)

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Baptist Child Care
Said Tops In Field

(2-3-63)

By John E. Roberts

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. (BP)--A Presbyterian professor told Baptist children's home managers they are "leaders in the field" of church-related child care institutions.

A Baptist theologian told the same group here they need "a more professional approach" in their ministry.

Both addressed the 1963 meeting of the Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists. Administrators of Southern Baptist children's homes, and wives of the administrators, are members of the group.

The homes are operated by state Baptist bodies rather than by the Southern Baptist Convention itself.

The Child Care Executives appointed a committee to work with any Baptist school which will train social workers. The objective is a school in an SBC seminary which would offer the master of social work degree.

"The greatest need of children is for their present and potential to be understood by their adult associates," Olin T. Binkley, Wake Forest, N. C., dean of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, told the child care executives.

"All children, and particularly those who have been hurt by separation from living parents, need a sympathetic environment of Christian love in which they can develop to the full."

The group met here as guests of the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina and Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Wagoner. Wagoner is general superintendent of the homes. It was the group's 15th annual meeting and its first in North Carolina.

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Binkley said all Southern Baptists should be made aware that the care of children, particularly those with special needs, is a delicate and difficult task. "It is expensive and it requires professional skill, human understanding and religious motivation," he said.

The second main speaker was Alan Keith-Lucas, professor in the school of social work at the University of North Carolina here. A specialist in institutional child care, he told the executives they are responsible for helping every adolescent child to appraise himself.

"On reaching adolescence the child in institutional or foster care must learn to come to terms with himself, his family, and the agency," he said. "The executive and his social workers must help the child to make an honest evaluation because at this point he begins charting the course of his adult behavior."

Keith-Lucas said he referred to the child's attitude. "His physical behavior is only a symptom of his thoughts and opinions--his outlook on life," he declared. "A youngster of 13 or so has reached the age of accountability and must decide things for himself. He must be led to accept and appreciate every advantage and resource he has. Otherwise he becomes frustrated and belligerent."

On another topic, he called it folly to evaluate a children's home on the basis of its size, buildings or endowment. "Our standards center on the degree to which the institution meets the child's needs," he declared. "If it gives love and security and the proper guidance to maturity--which includes honest self-appraisal--it is a good home."

A Presbyterian elder, Keith-Lucas said, "Southern Baptists lead all the South among the church-related institutions of child care."

Walter Wood, superintendent of Mills Home, Thomasville, N. C., told the group "changing social patterns are bringing us a steady increase in emotionally disturbed children." He said the executives must be alert to recognizing and understanding the symptoms of emotional disturbance and must have professional assistance in treating these children."

Veteran Baptist administrators said the conference brought to the front a growing emphasis on social service. Fewer than half the 31 Southern Baptist child-caring institutions represented have trained case workers on the staff. Most of the larger homes either have a social service department or are moving establishing one, however.

There were 65 members and honorary members in attendance.

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J. M. Lunsford Heads
Child Care Managers

(2-3-63)

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. (BP)--J. M. Lunsford, administrator, South Texas Baptist Children's Home, Beeville, is the new president of Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists.

He was elected in the organization's annual conference here and will serve for one year. Lunsford succeeds Edgar E. Blake, superintendent, Missouri Baptist Children's Home, Bridgeton, Mo.

The group will hold its 16th annual meeting Feb. 19-20, 1964 in Los Angeles. Host institution will be Sunny Crest Baptist Children's Home, Bakersfield, Calif. The 1965 meeting will be in Washington, D. C., with the Baptist Home for Children at Bethesda, Md., as host.

The conference voted to move the meeting time to the third Wednesday and Thursday in February rather than the last Wednesday and Thursday in January, which it has followed since its organization in 1949.

C. Ford Deusner, Louisville, general superintendent, Kentucky Baptist Board of Child Care, was elected first vice-president. Second vice-president is James S. McNabb Jr., superintendent of Texas Baptist Children's Home, Round Rock.

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James V. Browning of Oklahoma City, was reelected secretary-treasurer.

New members of the group this year include:

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Campbell of Dallas. Campbell is new superintendent of Buckner Baptist Home there.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Freeman of Bethesda, Md., where Freeman has charge of the Baptist Home for Children.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny R. Price. Price heads the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children at Monticello.

Mr. and Mrs. Wade B. East. East, who was a member when directing the Illinois Baptist Children's Home, had entered private child care work. He returned to the denomination, however, to superintend Louisiana Baptist Children's Home at Monroe.

Administrators of the Baptist homes, and wives of the administrators, are eligible for membership in Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists. The organization, which brings the administrators from coast to coast together once a year, has no formal or official tie to the Southern Baptist Convention or any state Baptist group.

The administrators, separately, are responsible to Baptist state bodies which operate the various homes.

February 3, 1963

Brooklyn Church Honors
Doctor-Freedom Fighter

By Gainer E. Bryan Jr.

NEW YORK (BP)--The First Baptist Church of Brooklyn honored a Baptist surgeon from Colombia for his work toward religious freedom in his country.

It gave the embossed citation to Dr. Amos Augusto Britton, a chest surgeon now studying in this New York City borough. It noted Dr. Britton's "humble dedication to the Lord Jesus Christ and to the principle of religious freedom."

The ceremony was part of the thanksgiving service at the Brooklyn church, which had just moved into a new location. Until this time, it had been using rooms in a Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). It is a church cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention.

It was the shutdown of Southern Baptist foreign mission schools on the islands of San Andres and Providencia in 1954 that spurred the surgeon to political action. Time Magazine reported the action at that time.

San Andres and Providencia are two palmshaded dots in the Caribbean Sea. Though located off the coast of Nicaragua, they belong to Colombia. The schools are the pride and joy of the people there. Literacy on the islands is reportedly 100 per cent; in Colombia itself, it's only 56 per cent.

It was a jolt, then, to the people when a Spanish priest, newly appointed as inspector of education for the islands by the Colombian government, closed the mission schools.

This was another in a five-year series of anti-evangelical blows in Colombia coming after the government's concordat with the Vatican. This agreement had made the islands one of 18 "mission territories" of the Roman Catholic Church.

"The idea as we saw it was to close all the schools, then all the churches," said the surgeon. During the period of what Dr. Britton called "general persecution," churches were burned; evangelicals were killed.

Yet the number of evangelicals more than doubled, he said.

Dr. Britton and others started a campaign to arouse public opinion. They submitted articles to the liberal press. They cited the Constitutional guarantee of religious freedom. They visited the papal delegate and the minister of education.

"The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations was hanging on the wall of the minister's office," said Dr. Britton. "We pointed it out to him."

"Finally we were able, after a strong campaign, to see President Gustavo Rojas Pinilla. When we entered his chambers there was a new minister of education by his side. The old one had been sent back to Vatican City." The president said the schools would open.

The local inspector on the islands still wouldn't yield. But, acting on the assurance of Dr. Britton and his associates, the schools were reopened anyway, after Dr. Britton told the island people about his visit to the president and new minister.

The schools stayed open.

Dr. Britton is now engaged in a fellowship in nuclear medicine at the Brooklyn National Laboratory. He has a contract to serve with the Colombian Institute of Nuclear Affairs when he returns.

A Baptist, he was baptized by Brooklyn Pastor D. A. Morgan when Britton was 15. Morgan was a member of churches developed through Southern Baptist missions.

The Brooklyn church purchased its new location from a German Baptist congregation. The owners turned down an offer of more than \$100,000 to sell it to Southern Baptists for \$80,000.

16 nationalities are represented in its membership and persons of three more nations attend its services. It ministers to people of all races.

Several Southern Baptist Convention leaders were present for the service. They included Courts Redford, Atlanta, executive secretary, SBC Home Mission Board, and Roy D. Gresham, Baltimore, executive secretary, Baptist Convention of Maryland.

On the Saturday before the service, the pastor, Mrs. Morgan, their three sons and two nieces--who lived above the church--were wakened by robbers. Forcing a door open, the robbers had entered the apartment. They bound and gagged the seven occupants and stole \$255 and some jewelry.

Morgan and the family were held at bay with daggers fashioned from automobile radio antennas. Later Morgan was able to free himself, then the others. Mrs. Morgan and the girls required medical attention.

Morgan cited this crime as evidence that the church stands where it can render a Christian moral influence on the community.

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Cutlines to photo with Bryan feature story:

DOCTOR HONORED--Colombian surgeon Amos Augusto Britton is honored by Southern Baptist church in Brooklyn (New York City) for his fight to reopen Baptist schools on two Caribbean islands belonging to Colombia. Successful fight occurred in 1954 when government closed schools after a concordat with Vatican. Schools eventually reopened. (BP) Photo by Gainer E. Bryan Jr.

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